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LARSON STATEMENT ON IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL PASSAGE

WASHINGTON- Today, Congressman John B. Larson (CT-1), Vice Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, issued the following statement following passage of the Iraq Supplemental.

◆The President is out of touch with an overwhelming majority of the American people and the hundreds of people I have heard from at forums in my district in Connecticut. I could not in good faith continue to fund the President's failed policy in Iraq -- more troops, more money, more time and more of the same. It is time to bring our troops home in a safe, strategic and responsible manner.

◆In a separate bill, we passed much needed emergency funding for defense and veterans healthcare, Katrina and Gulf Coast recovery, children's health care and a much needed raise in the minimum wage. Our nation's veterans, children, victims of Katrina and those who haven't received a raise in the minimum wage in ten years, could not afford to wait any longer.

◆This debate over war funding is far from over. We will continue to fight for accountability and an end to this war through the summer as we consider the Department of Defense Authorization and Appropriations bills. There are only four months left in this fiscal year, so I look towards September when the President has to report back to Congress on the progress of Iraq to continue to hold his feet to the fire. I will fight this Administration's failed policies in Iraq until we have a plan to bring our troops home.◆

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